

Customer No. 24498
Attorney Docket No. PU030295
Office Action Date: June 25, 2008

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application, and are rejected in the Office Action of June 26, 2008. Claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10-16 are amended herein to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter Applicant regards as the invention.

Re: Drawings

The drawings are objected to because FIGS. 2-4 are allegedly not of sufficient quality to permit understanding of the FIGS., where each FIG. includes a sort of title that is not legible. To rectify this matter, corrected drawings sheets are submitted with this response. In view of this submission, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Re: Claims 1-3, 6-9 and 12

Claims 1-3, 6-9 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0037335 by Gatto et al. (hereinafter, "Gatto"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 is amended herein to recite:

"A method for operating a television apparatus connected to a digital serial bus to enable a recording function, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a user input selecting a designated video input source device connected to the digital serial bus;

in response to the user input, establishing a peer-to-peer connection between the designated video input source device and a digital recording device connected to the digital serial bus; and

further in response to the user input, causing the digital recording device to record digital content provided from the designated video input source device, wherein data may be directly transferred between the designated video input source device and the digital recording device." (emphasis added)

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As indicated above, independent claim 1 is amended herein to define a method for operating a television apparatus connected to a digital serial bus to enable a recording function. According to the claimed method, a user input selecting a designated video input source device connected to the digital serial bus is received. In response to this user input, a peer-to-peer connection between the designated video input source device and a digital recording device connected to the digital serial bus is established. Also in response to this user input, the television apparatus causes the digital recording device to record digital content provided from the designated video input source device, wherein data may be directly transferred between the designated video input source device and the digital recording device. In the aforementioned manner, the claimed invention defines a method which advantageously provides simplified peer-to-peer recording (see title). More specifically, the claimed invention advantageously enables at least three different functions to be performed in response to a single user input to the television apparatus, namely, the functions of: (i) selecting a designated video input source device, (ii) establishing a peer-to-peer connection between the designated video input source device and a digital recording device; and (iii) causing the digital recording device to record digital content provided from the designated video input source device. Independent claim 7 is also amended herein to recite subject matter similar to independent claim 1, as described above. Support for these amendments may be found, for example, in Applicant's specification on page 9, lines 8-13 and 15-18, and page 21, line 17 to page 22, line 14 (and specifically the portions describing steps 604-612 of FIG. 6).

Gatto fails to teach or suggest all elements of independent claims 1 and 7 as required for a proper rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102. Gatto discloses an interactive television device that is configured to receive and process multiple broadband input streams simultaneously. In particular, the device includes functionality to perform as a web browser, a cable and satellite television receiver, a digital PVR, an interactive set-top box, an advanced central processing unit and a videoconferencing device. However, Gatto fails to disclose to suggest, *inter alia*, a method and apparatus that enables at least three different functions to be performed in response to a single user

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input to a television apparatus, namely, the functions of: (i) selecting a designated video input source device, (ii) establishing a peer-to-peer connection between the designated video input source device and a digital recording device; and (iii) causing the digital recording device to record digital content provided from the designated video input source device, as provided by independent claims 1 and 7. Accordingly, amended independent claims 1 and 7 and their respective dependent claims are deemed novel and non-obvious over Gatto, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Re: Claims 4, 5, 10, 11 and 13-16

Claims 4, 5, 10, 11 and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatto in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,788,882 issued to Geer et al. (hereinafter, "Geer"). Claims 4, 5, 10 and 11 each ultimately depend from either independent claim 1 or 7 described above. Independent claim 13 is amended herein to define subject matter similar to independent claims 1 and 7 described above, and claims 14-16 depend from claim 13. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the same reasons pointed out above in conjunction with independent claims 1 and 7 since Geer is unable to remedy the above-described deficiencies of Gatto. In particular, Geer discloses a digital video recorder that is capable of concurrently receiving and digitally storing a plurality of channels. However, like Gatto, Geer also fails to disclose to suggest, *inter alia*, a method and apparatus that enables at least three different functions to be performed in response to a single user input to a television apparatus, namely, the functions of: (i) selecting a designated video input source device, (ii) establishing a peer-to-peer connection between the designated video input source device and a digital recording device; and (iii) causing the digital recording device to record digital content provided from the designated video input source device, as provided by independent claims 1, 7 and 13. Accordingly, claims 4, 5, 10, 11 and 13-16 are deemed non-obvious over the proposed combination of Gatto and Geer, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks/arguments and accompanying amendments, the Applicant believes this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6815, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled. No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,



By: Paul P. Kiel
Reg. No. 40,677
Phone (609) 734-6815

Patent Operations
Thomson Licensing LLC
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

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